NOTICES FOR THE GRANTS COMMUNITY REGARDING POTENTIAL GOVERNMENT SHUT DOWN September 28, 2015

As you are aware, the Government Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 ends on September 30, 2015 and an Appropriation Act for FY2016 has not been passed. The Administration strongly believes that a lapse in appropriations should not occur, and that there is enough time for Congress to act to prevent a lapse. However, prudent management requires that we prepare for an orderly execution of contingency plans in the unfortunate event of a lapse. In the event a continuing resolution or a FY2016 budget is not passed and a lapse of funding occurs, I wanted to provide you with information related to our grant administration processes.

For those with funding affected by the lapse

Should a lapse in funding occur, HHS' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention staff will not be available to provide routine administrative support services. HHS will, however, maintain the Payment Management System in an operational status to continue processing grant drawdown requests, so that payments can be made for excepted programs. For awards received prior to the gap in funding, you may also be able to continue drawing funds from prior awards during an appropriations lapse. The robust internal controls that currently exist would continue to ensure the integrity of grant drawdown requests and payments. If you received your notice of grant award with restrictive terms and conditions, or if your drawdown request triggers one of the Payment Management System edit checks and or the drawdown limit controls, you will not be able to drawdown funds.

For those with funding NOT impacted by the lapse

Your particular grant program if funded by appropriations that are not affected by the government shutdown can expect to receive a subsequent notification in the coming days. As a result, a minimal number of federal staff will be available to provide routine administrative support services. You can also continue processing grant drawdown requests, so that payments can be made for your excepted programs.

If you are considering submitting an application for additional HHS federal assistance funding, please be advised, that the Grants.gov system will be operational and will be accepting applications from prospective grantees. HHS will take action on those applications for fully funded and excepted programs. For those programs which are non-excepted, the Grants.gov system will to accept and store applications until such time as the responsible Department has the authority and funding to return to normal business operations.

Please check our website at www.hhs.gov for updates. Thank you for your assistance with this period of a potential government shut-down and your ongoing support of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.